

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) A method for determining taxes for a
2 transaction by applying tax rules specified using configurable templates in a
3 computer system, comprising:
4 receiving the transaction for which taxes are to be determined;
5 examining a configurable template associated with a tax rule, wherein the
6 configurable template identifies a set of attributes associated with the
7 transaction,
8 wherein the configurable template has been configured by a
9 system user to include drivers deemed necessary to facilitate the
10 configuration and reusability of the configurable template in the
11 tax rules, wherein the drivers are the attributes associated with the
12 transaction, and wherein the tax rule is produced by the computer
13 system using the configurable template from abstracted tax
14 authority rules;
15 examining a set of conditions for the set of attributes; ~~and~~
16 when each condition in the set of conditions is satisfied, using a process
17 result associated with the set of conditions in determining a tax for the
18 transaction, wherein the process result indicates the outcome of a process
19 associated with the condition; and
20 wherein when the tax rule does not apply to the transaction and additional
21 tax rules exist, the method further comprises attempting to apply the next tax rule

22 in the order of precedence in the process of determining the transaction, wherein
23 the additional tax rules are applied in a sequence determined by a precedence
24 ordering of the additional tax rules.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein if the set of conditions
2 is not satisfied and if an alternative set of conditions for the set of attributes is
3 satisfied, the method further comprises using an alternative process result
4 associated with the alternative set of conditions in determining the tax for the
5 transaction.

1 3-4 (Canceled)

1 5. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, wherein the
2 precedence ordering allows the user to configure the system in a way that more
3 specific tax rules are applied before more general tax rules are applied.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising allowing a
2 user to modify configurable templates associated with the tax rules.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax rule specifies
2 whether or not a specific tax is applicable to the transaction.

1 8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax rule
2 specifies a tax rate that is used in determining the tax amount for a tax applicable
3 to the transaction.

1 9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax rule
2 specifies a tax status that is used in determining the tax amount for a tax
3 applicable to the transaction.

1 10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax rule
2 specifies a taxable basis formula that is used in determining the tax amount for a
3 tax applicable to the transaction.

1 11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax rule
2 specifies a tax calculation formula that is used in determining the tax amount for a
3 tax applicable to the transaction.

1 12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax rule
2 specifies a tax recovery rate that is used in determining the tax recovery amount
3 for a tax applicable to the transaction.

1 13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax rule
2 specifies a result that is used in determining the outcome of any process of
3 determining or administering taxes that are applicable to the transaction.

1 14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein
2 determining the tax for the transaction involves:
3 determining which taxes are applicable to the transaction;
4 determining a taxable basis for the transaction;
5 determining an applicable tax rate for the transaction; and
6 calculating the tax for the transaction.

1 15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein different
2 sets of tax rules can be associated with different local jurisdictions.

1 16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax
2 rule, the configurable template and the set of conditions reside in a database.

1 17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax
2 rules specified using configurable templates are applied to processes other than
3 determining taxes such as processes of administering taxes.

1 18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the tax
2 rules specified using configurable templates are applied to a few but not all of the
3 processes for determining or administering taxes.

1 19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the system
2 allows the tax rules to be created for a hierarchy of tax regimes in such a way as
3 to allow the specification of a general rule for a higher-level regime, and
4 increasingly specific rules down the regime hierarchy to the level of taxes in the
5 lowest level of regime.

1 20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the system
2 allows the tax rules to be defined for subscribers according to an open
3 subscription model that allows sharing of rules across subscribers in a
4 subscription hierarchy

1 21. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a

3 method for determining taxes for a transaction by applying tax rules specified
4 using configurable templates in a computer system, the method comprising:
5 receiving the transaction for which taxes are to be determined;
6 examining a configurable template associated with a tax rule,
7 wherein the configurable template identifies a set of attributes associated with the
8 transaction,
9 wherein the configurable template has been configured by a
10 system user to include drivers deemed necessary to facilitate the
11 configuration and reusability of the configurable template in the
12 tax rules, wherein the drivers are the attributes associated with the
13 transaction, and wherein the tax rule is produced by the computer
14 system using the configurable template from abstracted tax
15 authority rules;
16 examining a set of conditions for the set of attributes; ~~and~~
17 when each condition in the set of conditions is satisfied, using a process
18 result associated with the set of conditions in determining a tax for the
19 transaction, wherein the process result indicates the outcome of a process
20 associated with the condition; and
21 wherein when the tax rule does not apply to the transaction and additional
22 tax rules exist, the method further comprises attempting to apply the next tax rule
23 in the order of precedence in the process of determining the transaction, wherein
24 the additional tax rules are applied in a sequence determined by a precedence
25 ordering of the additional tax rules
26 .

1 22. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein if the set of conditions is not satisfied and if an
3 alternative set of conditions for the set of attributes is satisfied, the method further

4 comprises using an alternative process result associated with the alternative set of
5 conditions in determining the tax for the transaction.

1 23-24 (Canceled).

1 25. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 23~~ claim 21, wherein the precedence ordering causes more specific tax rules
3 to be applied before more general tax rules are applied.

1 26. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the method further comprises allowing a user to
3 modify configurable templates associated with the tax rules.

1 27. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rule specifies whether or not a specific tax is
3 applicable to the transaction.

1 28. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rule specifies a tax rate that is used in
3 determining the tax for the transaction.

1 29. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rule specifies a tax status that is used in
3 determining the tax amount for a tax applicable to the transaction.

1 30. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rule specifies a taxable basis formula that is
3 used in determining the tax amount for a tax applicable to the transaction.

1 31. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rule specifies a tax calculation formula that is
3 used in determining the tax amount for a tax applicable to the transaction.

1 32. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rule specifies a tax recovery rate that is used in
3 determining the tax recovery amount for a tax applicable to the transaction.

1 33. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rule specifies a result that is used in
3 determining the outcome of any process of determining or administering taxes
4 that are applicable to the transaction.

1 34. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein determining the tax for the transaction involves:
3 determining which taxes are applicable to the transaction;
4 determining a taxable basis for the transaction;
5 determining an applicable tax rate for the transaction; and
6 calculating the tax for the transaction.

1 35. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein different sets of tax rules can be associated with
3 different local jurisdictions.

1 36. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rule, the configurable template and the set of
3 conditions reside in a database.

1 37. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rules specified using configurable templates
3 are applied to processes other than determining taxes such as processes of
4 administering taxes.

1 38. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the tax rules specified using configurable templates
3 are applied to a few but not all processes for determining or administering taxes.

1 39. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the system allows the tax rules to be created for a
3 hierarchy of tax regimes in such a way as to allow the specification of a general
4 rule for a higher-level regime, and increasingly specific rules down the regime
5 hierarchy to the level of taxes in the lowest level of regime.

1 40. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of
2 ~~claim 20~~ claim 21, wherein the system allows the tax rules to be defined for
3 subscribers according to an open subscription model that allows sharing of rules
4 across subscribers in a subscription hierarchy

1 41. Canceled